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The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : That is what I said in answer to clause (b) of the question, namely, that the Accommodation Controller has been addressed to allot a suitable building for this purpose, that is, provision of a rented house.

Corporal punishment in schools

* 3043 *Q.*—Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have taken any steps to curb the practice of corporal punishment in schools?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : Rules have been framed to the effect, that corporal punishment shall not be inflicted in schools except in the case of moral delinquency such as deliberate lying, obscenity of word or act or flagrant insubordination.

Sri P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Sir, may I know whether the Government have received any complaint from any guardian stating that his child has been inflicted of corporal punishment and whether any action has been taken on such complaint? 9-30 a.m.

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : I am sorry I do not have the information. If the hon. Member is interested, he may put a separate question.

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Sir, the Hon. Minister said in his answer that corporal punishment was inflicted in cases of moral delinquency such as deliberate lying, etc. In view of the general principles of education and principles of modern organization and discipline, are Government aware that this corporal punishment, which pertains to an old primitive age, is completely ruled out and will the Government, therefore, see that even in such matters infliction of corporal punishment is ruled out?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir., I do agree that there is difference of opinion with reference to corporal punishment. On the other hand, there is an opinion gathering now that corporal punishment is necessary especially during the younger age and that seems to be the expert opinion throughout the world. Therefore, if we are to take steps to abolish corporal punishment, let us await final opinion in this matter.

Dr. K. B. MENON : Sir, are the Government aware that corporal punishment to students has been abolished in progressive countries, because the teachers who inflict corporal punishment may be saddists and because the punishment or the way in which it is inflicted is related to sex, corporal punishment is forbidden in British schools? Will the Government consider and investigate into these matters and abolish corporal punishment in schools?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, I have discussed this subject with various international experts and they seem to think that a certain amount of corporal punishment at least is

necessary. There is bound to be difference of opinion in this matter and I may assure the hon. Members that it is only in very rare and exceptional cases that this sort of punishment resorted to.

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN : May I know whether the old proverb " Spare the rod and spoil the child " holds good in respect in our schools now-a-days?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, that is an extreme way of putting the matter. I am not prepared to go as far that. But, my own view is that a certain amount of corporal punishment is necessary and after all it happens in households that fathers and mothers resort to it to a certain extent and I do not see how we can avoid it in schools.

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN : Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that sometimes corporal punishment inflicted by the teacher on the pupils results in the same punishment being meted out to the teacher by the pupils or parents when the teacher is outside the school? Such an instance has happened in my own town. (Laughter.) Is it not possible to reconsider the whole matter and come to some conclusion?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, it is regrettable. That only shows the irresponsibility of the parents in this matter.

SRI C. KANDASAMY : கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தன் சொந்த அனுபவத்தில் இப்படிச் சொல்லும் பனிஷ்மெண்டை அனுபவித்திருக்கிறாரா ? அந்த அடிப்படையில்தான் இப்பொழுது அனுசரிக்கப்படுகிறதா ?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : நாங்கள் படித்த காலத்தில் இப்பொழுது ஸ்ரீ ஜகந்நாதம் சொன்னதுபோல் அனுஷ்டிக்கப்பட்டிருந்த காலம். அப்பொழுது நானும் அனுபவித்திருக்கிறேன்.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : May I know, Sir, what is the corporal punishment that is contemplated now? Is it confined to mere caning and even the use of a ruler and other things which, if allowance is given to the teachers, may end in maiming of the children?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, I do not think there has been any case where the teachers have misused this. It might be that just in the heat of the moment anybody might do anything. But, under the rules, only a cane can be used.

SRI S. PANCHAKSHARAM : Sir, I would like to know whether in countries like Britain corporal punishment has been abolished and any other effective alternative punishment has been introduced.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, there have been trials in various alternative methods, for example, having students councils for the purpose of maintaining discipline and see that students do not misbehave. All these are only in experimental stages. Therefore, whether this punishment is necessary or

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whether there is an effective substitute will have to be decided only during the course of further experiments and by further thinking over the matter.

Sri W. J. FERNANDEZ : I understand that corporal punishment can be inflicted only by the headmasters of schools and not by assistant teachers. Is that so?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : No, Sir. It should be done by or under the supervision of the headmaster.

Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN : Sir, have the Government stipulated the dimensions of the punishing rod? (Laughter).

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, I think there is a rule about it. But I do not have it here. The cane should be of particular dimension.

Sri T. SHANMUGAM : பிரம்புகளைக்கொண்டு பிள்ளைகளை கையில் அடிக்கிறார்களா அல்லது அவர்கள் உடம்பிலும் அடிக்கிறார்களா ?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : பிள்ளைகளின் உடம்பில் அடிக்கக்கூடாது. கையில் அடிக்கவேண்டும் அல்லது பின்புறத்தில் அடிக்கவேண்டும்.

Sri S. RAMALINGAM : கார்பொரல் பனிஷ்மெண்ட் என்றால் பிரம்பால் அடிப்பது மாத்திரமா அல்லது பண்டைக் காலத்தில் இருந்தது போல் கோதண்டம் போன்றது உண்டா ?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : பிரம்புதான் இப்பொழுது உபயோகப்படுத்தப்படுகிறது.

Sri V. MUTHU : பிரம்பால் அடிக்கலாம் என்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். அப்படியென்றால் பிரம்பு எவ்வளவு பருமன் இருக்கவேண்டும்.

Licence for mining lime-stones

* 3044 *Q.*—Sri S. RAMALINGAM (on behalf of Sri M. Kalyanasundaram) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any mining licence was issued for mining lime-stones in Ramayyapuram, Tirunelveli district ; and

(*b*) if so, to whom and on what terms?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No mining lease has been sanctioned for lime-stone in Ramayyapuram.

Presumably the Member refers to the mining leases for lime-stone granted in Ramayyanpatti village. If so, the answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Two mining leases for lime-stone in the village have been granted to the India Cements Ltd., Talaiyuthu, Tirunelveli district. A statement showing the terms and conditions of the leases is placed [a] on the table of the House.

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[a] Printed as Appendix on pages 292–294 infra.